

Tips For Applying Pesticides

- Have the pest (insect, disease, weed, or animal problem) properly identified before applying pesticides. You can contact your local county OSU Extension office.
- Read the pesticide label when purchasing product and ask the garden center clerk questions before purchase.
- Read pesticide labels before mixing.
- Wear protective clothing when mixing pesticides:
 - dry formulations:* dust mask, gloves, goggles
 - liquid formulations:* liquid proof gloves, goggles
- Mix pesticides outdoors for ventilation.
- Rinse measuring devices outdoors, not in sinks or storm drains where pesticides could flow into wastewater treatment plants, creeks, rivers, or lakes.
- Wear proper protective clothing when applying pesticides to prevent contamination. *Rule of thumb:* Cover all exposed skin. Wear liquid proof gloves, long sleeved shirt, long pants, liquid proof boots, and goggles. Wear a dust mask in addition to clothing mentioned when applying dusts and granules. Remove clothing following application.
- Apply pesticides when wind is minimal such as morning or evening.
- Do not apply pesticides during hot weather such as the middle of the day. Heat exhaustion can occur due to protective clothing worn. Also, some pesticides may burn plants during excessive heat or humidity.
- Allow pesticides to dry before allowing children, pets, or other adults into treated area.
- Rinse equipment outdoors. Do not pour rinse water, solutions, or concentrates down household sinks, toilets, or storm drains. Spray rinse solution back onto treated area.
- Store pesticides out of reach of children. Many accidents occur due to easy access of pesticides to children.
- Empty liquid containers should be triple rinsed, punctured, wrapped in several sheets of paper and disposed of in trash receptacles.